

SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 31st Year

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Wisconsin Valley Radio Association members provide public service



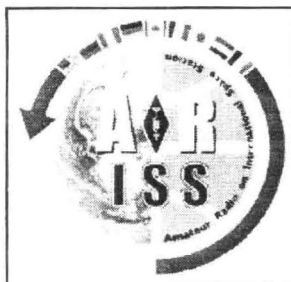
The Wisconsin Valley Radio Association in Wausau provided ground support and radio communications for the Spirit of Marshfield medical helicopter. The helicopter was part of an activity for the Marshfield Clinic's Family and Friends picnic in Wausau Saturday, October 7, 2000. The WVRA also set up a table to promote Amateur Radio and the club. Left to right are Mike Wild, KB9DED; Matt Baumann, N9NMH; Mark Rasmussen, N9MEA; Scott Winter, KB9PVI; Michael Martens, KB9VBR; and Del Hoffman, N9PHC. Another photo is on page 4.

Photo and story courtesy of Michael Martens, KB9VBR

Coming soon

First ham operation from ISS

Amateur Radio is poised to mark an historic milestone. Operation from Amateur Radio's first permanent foothold in space is expected to debut soon after the all-ham Expedition 1 crew arrives November 2 aboard the International Space Station.



The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station--or ARISS--initial station gear already is aboard the ISS awaiting the arrival of Expedition 1 Commander and US astronaut Bill Shepherd, KD5GSL, and Russian Cosmonauts Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, and Yuri Gidzenko. The equipment includes VHF and UHF hand-held transceivers as well as a TNC for packet, a specially developed headset and signal adapter module plus power adapters and interconnecting cables.

The Expedition 1 crew is set to blast off aboard a Russian Soyuz rocket October 31 from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan and will arrive aboard the ISS a couple of days later. Once on board, the crew will begin a four-month stay aboard the ISS--the first permanent occupancy of the interna-

tional complex.

Two US call signs have been issued for Amateur Radio operations as part of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station program. The FCC granted vanity call signs NA1ISS and NN1ISS to the International Space Station Amateur Radio Club on October 11. The NA1ISS call sign will be used on board the ISS, while NN1ISS will be for ground-based ISS communications from Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. A Russian call sign, RZ3DZR, and a German call sign, DL0ISS, also have been issued for use aboard the ISS.

Still to be determined are the frequencies for ARISS and an operating schedule. A decision on both is expected soon, along with QSL information. The initial station gear will be installed temporarily in the Zarya Functional Cargo Block of the ISS and will permit operation only on 2 meters--FM voice and packet. The ARISS Team anticipates multi-band, multimode operations with the crew and regularly scheduled school group contacts.

For more information about Amateur Radio on the ISS and SAREX, visit the ARISS Web site, <http://ariss.gsfc.nasa.gov/>.

ARRL ARLS014

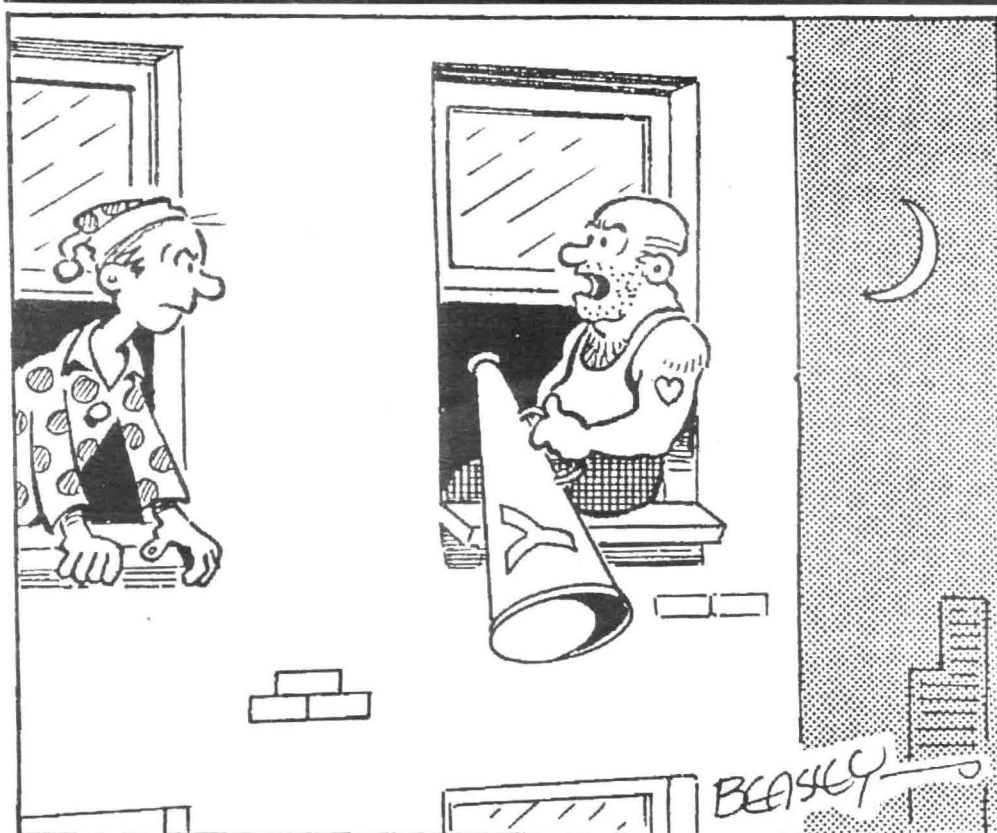
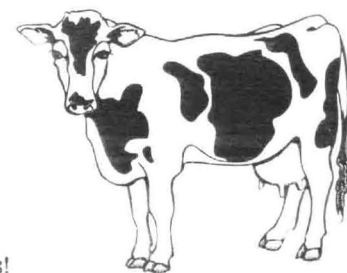
Happy Thanksgiving

from the staff of

Badger State Smoke Signals

Have we herd from you lately?

Udderly delightful! We try to be on top of the latest moos!



WHY SHOULD I SPEND A BUNCH OF MONEY FOR RADIO GEAR WHEN I CAN TALK TO SOMEBODY ACROSS TOWN THIS WAY?

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Swapfests and Other Social Events — Club Meetings Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901 • kebnetter@palacenet.net

Swapfests And Other Social Events

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2000. Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club will again be hosting the premier electronic Swapmeet and Hamfest in Northeastern Wisconsin. Held at the STARLITE CLUB: CORNERS OF HWY 55 AND CNTY. RD. JJ. KAUKAUNA, WI A map is available at <http://www.w9zl.ampr.org/> hamfest2000. Sell your new or used equipment: Reserve an indoor table for only \$8.00. Sell or trade you radios, computers, electronic or scientific equipment. Turn your stuff into \$\$\$\$\$. Shop for great bargains. FCC testing at 9:00 AM by VE volunteers, original license and photo ID required. Please visit our website at WWW.W9ZL.AMPR.ORG for more information.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2001 29th Annual Midwinter Swapfest Waukesha Exposition Center Sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club <http://www.WARAC.org>

FEBRUARY 27, 2001 Red Cedar Repeater Association Auction American Legion Post 53 634 Water St., Eau Claire WI Information: Steve Hart, KA9OMC (715) 665-2374.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2001 SEWFARS Swapfest

Waukesha Expo Center 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Setup starts at 6 a.m. Talkin: 146.82 PL 127.3 Reservation deadline: February 23, 2001 Info: (262) 835-7035

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2001 Wisconsin QSO Party Sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club <http://www.WARAC.org>

SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2001 NS9RCfest Formerly LAMARSfest Lake County Fairgrounds Grayslake, IL Sponsored by North Shore Radio Club, Box 1066, Highland Park IL 60035 <http://www.ns9rc.org>

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2001 Madison Swapfest Mandt Community Center 400 Mandt Parkway Stoughton, WI Doors open at 8 a.m. Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY P.O. Box 8890, Madison WI 53708-8890 Info Line: (608) 245-8890

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2001 Ozaukee Radio and Computer Swapfest 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Circle B Recreation Center, Intersection of Highway 60 and County Y Info: Ozaukee Radio Club W55 N865 Cedar Ridge Drive Cedarburg, WI 53012

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2001 Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club Hamfest 2001 Information: Jim Staatz, KG9RA P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire WI 54702-1867 Web: <http://www.ecarc.org> Email: w9eau@ecarc.org

SATURDAY, JULY 7, 2001 Hamfest 01 South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club American Legion Park, Oak Creek Info: Verne at (414) 762-3235

As a service to our readers, this section is available without charge to list your upcoming swapfest, hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to kebnetter@palacenet.net.



CLUB MEETINGS

Due to space limitations, we cannot carry the complete listing of club meetings every month. Please see last month's BSSS or our web site <http://www.bsss.org> for the latest complete listing. The following are changes and additions that have been reported to BSSS since that listing.

St. CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS
Hudson, WI Meetings: Third Tuesdays, St. Croix County Emergency Government Center, Carmichael Road, Hudson. Short business meeting at 7:30 p.m. followed by program. Talkin: 145.13 MHz. All are welcome! Informal meetings held at the TA truck stop on Interstate 94 at the Roberts Exit (highway 65) Meetings (and breakfast) will start at approximately 8:15 am on Saturday mornings.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

November 04, 2000 Menomonie, WI
November 04, 2000 Onalaska, WI
November 04, 2000 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
November 04, 2000 Racine, WI
November 04, 2000 St. Paul, MN
November 05, 2000 Kaukauna, WI
November 11, 2000 Blaine, MN
November 11, 2000 Madison, WI
November 14, 2000 Apple Valley, MN
November 18, 2000 Cottage Grove, MN
November 18, 2000 Loves Park, IL
November 18, 2000 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
November 21, 2000 Eden Prairie, MN
November 21, 2000 Sheboygan, WI
November 25, 2000 Bloomington, MN
November 25, 2000 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
November 25, 2000 Tomahawk, WI
December 02, 2000 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
December 02, 2000 Racine, WI
December 02, 2000 St. Paul, MN
December 02, 2000 Eau Claire, WI
December 09, 2000 Blaine, MN
December 09, 2000 Madison, WI
December 14, 2000 Apple Valley, MN
December 16, 2000 Cottage Grove, MN
December 16, 2000 Loves Park, IL
December 16, 2000 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
December 19, 2000 Eden Prairie, MN
December 23, 2000 Bloomington, MN
January 06, 2001 Racine, WI
January 06, 2001 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
January 06, 2001 St. Paul, MN
January 11, 2001 Apple Valley, MN
January 13, 2001 Madison, WI
January 13, 2001 Blaine, MN
January 16, 2001 Eden Prairie, MN
January 20, 2001 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
January 20, 2001 Loves Park, IL
January 20, 2001 Cottage Grove, MN

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio Education and Information

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX; Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ.

Subscription Rate

1 year (12 issues) \$13.95

Subscription form is on page 5. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Jim Romelfanger NO LATER THAN EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT'S DATE.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. **THIS CREDIT IS MANDATORY, AND NO MATERIAL MAY BE PRINTED OR POSTED UNLESS IT IS GIVEN.**

This newspaper is produced by volunteer radio amateurs, and is non-profit. This newspaper is mailed from Portage, WI 53901.

Badger State Smoke Signals is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-for-profit organization.

Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

January 27, 2001 Bloomington, MN
 January 27, 2001 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 January 27, 2001 Appleton, WI
 January 27, 2001 Tomahawk, WI
 January 13, 2001 Eau Claire, WI
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Oshkosh (Omro), WI
 Monthly, 1st Sat. St. Paul, MN
 Monthly, 2nd Thu. Apple Valley, MN
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Madison, WI
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Blaine, MN
 Monthly, 3rd Tue. Eden Prairie, MN
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 (September through April)
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Loves Park, IL
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Cottage Grove, MN
 Monthly, 4th Sat. Bloomington, MN
 Monthly, Last Sat. Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 (except December)
 Monthly, Last Sat. Tomahawk, WI
 (January thru October only)
 Quarterly Eau Claire, WI
 (Second Saturday Jan., Apr., & Oct.)
 plus annual summer hamfest.)

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. Some VE teams permit walk-ins. Check with the sponsor.

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination. To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Got your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from

<http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html>
 or
[ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605](http://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605).

A form by FAX is available at (202) 418-0177 (request Form 100605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676. Form 605 has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$6.65 payable to "ARRL/VEC". Exam fees change annually. See QST, WIAW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes. ARRL/VEC no longer gives a free code test or Element 2.

Test fees: The ARRL/VEC has set its 2000 test fee at \$6.65. A \$6.65 fee will be collected from applicants seeking to upgrade using a physician's certification to waive the Morse code examination.

FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.shtml>

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in the US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB (MRAC/VEC) MILWAUKEE

Last Saturday, except June, July, and August, 9:30 a.m. to noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Road, Milwaukee. For additional information, call (262) 797- MRAC. Bring along your original license, CSCE (if any), and one (1) good quality

photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such as a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$6.65 for the exam fee. Walk-ins are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card. Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number, and send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, PO Box 25707, Milwaukee, WI 53225.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE
 September thru April, every third Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m. to noon,

Badger Examiners group tests at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 60th and Good Hope, Milwaukee. Exams are given at the old Serman Printing shop, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided. Fee is \$6.75, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed. Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, WI9M at (414) 355-0237.

EAU CLAIRE, WI
 October 7, December 2, 2000. 9 a.m. to 12 noon. South Middle School, 2115 Mitschner Avenue, Eau Claire, WI. Information: Steve Bluem, KA9OMY, (715) 839-6509 or ka9omy@aarl.net Web page: <http://www.ecarc.org>

FRIENDSHIP, WI
 Saturday, October 7, 2000. Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative, Community room, 401 E. Lake Street (CTH J), Friendship, WI. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. local time. Walk-ins welcome, repeat exams as time permits upon payment of additional fee. Sponsor: Adams County Amateur Radio Club. Contacts: Wayne Hembrook, KB9LNQ, (608) 339-4169, email kb9lnq@maqs.net or Karl Simonson, KS9E, (847) 244-0802, email ks9e@usa.com.

MADISON, WI
 First Saturday monthly: 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Space Place, 1605 South Park Street, Madison. Please bring a picture ID, your original license, a copy of your license, and a check for \$6.65 made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me. Dates: September 2, October 7, November 4, December 2, 2000, and January 6, 2001. Questions may be directed to Tim Czerwinka, WO9U, at (608) 233-9829 (home phone) or sent to wo9u@arrl.net.

MENOMONIE, WI
 November 4, 2000: The Menomonie area hams will conduct VE exams for all classes of licenses. The location will be the U.W.-Stout Communications Center, 820 South Broadway, Menomonie Wisconsin. Walk-ins only. Arrive between 9 and 11 a.m. For information, contact Jim Ley, NX9F, (715) 235-3998 (H), or (715) 232-1397 (W).

STEVENS POINT, WI - ARRL/VEC
 All levels of amateur exams. Room A107 of the UWSP Science Building, on campus, corner of Fourth and Reserve Streets. For questions, directions, or further information, contact Joe Larson, N9JW, at 715-344-1182 evenings or email to joel8@bigfoot.com.

(We are waiting for an update from this exam group. BSSS Editor.) Joe Larson, N9JW

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC
 Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert N. Jensen, W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge lane #6, Racine, WI. Telephone (262) 886-8551.

TOMAHAWK, WI
 Last Saturday of every month, January thru October. Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No advance registration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testing starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC
MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST)
KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST)

Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. For Appleton information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. For Manitowoc or Kaukauna information, contact Larry Siebers, KD9IA (920) 759-1167.

OSHKOSH (OMRO)
 The Oshkosh VE Team will administer Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon at the Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larabee, Omro, WI. Walk-ins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

SHEBOYGAN, WI
 Saturday, September 16: 8:30 a.m. registration, 9 a.m. testing. Tuesday, November 21: 6:30 p.m. registration, 7 p.m. testing. All sessions will be held in the Red Cross building, 2023 Erie Avenue, in the main level classroom area. This testing site is handicapped/wheelchair accessible. Pre-registration is appreciated so we don't get caught short of forms and examinations, but walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Art Pahr, K9XJ, N8029 Willow Road, Plymouth, WI 53073-2929. (920) 876-2370. K9XJ e-mail: <k9xj@excel.net>

ONALASKA, WI (ARRL/VEC)
 September 16 and November 4. The Riverland Amateur Radio Club will hold test sessions at the Onalaska Public Library, 741 Oak Avenue South. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Please bring two forms of identification and two copies of all original documents, CSCEs, license, etc. For more information contact: Roger Reader, KA9BKK, 526 13th Ave. N., Onalaska, WI 54650. (608) 783-0723.

MEDFORD, WI (ARRL/VEC)
 Saturday, September 16. Sponsored by the Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club. Testing for all classes, Novice through Extra. Registration starts 8:30 a.m., testing starts 9 a.m. Location: The community meeting/conference room in the lower level of the Sheriff's Department annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI.

Take Ogden St. west off of Hwy. 13 to the courthouse. Park on the street or in the parking lot on the south side of the courthouse. Use one of the two entrances there. Watch for the signs when you get into the building. Talk-in on the 147.15 (+600 kHz, 114.8 PL) repeater. Walk-ins welcome, but if you know you'll be attending, please let us know. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451. (715) 748-4054. E-mail: Mike, N9GHZ, muzikman@pcpros.net.

PEWAUKEE, WI (ARRL/VEC)
 First Saturday in months school is in session. Exams held at Waukesha County Technical College Science Building. WCTC is on Highway JJ off Hwy 16 from the East I-94 and Hwy T from West I-94 just north of GE Medical Systems. Handicapped parking is at the rear of the building. Tests start at 9 a.m. and registration ends at 10 a.m. Contact: Al Johnson, AA7CS, (920) 568-0836, email aa7cs@arrl.net; Roger Bradley, AA9OJ, (262) 691-3089 or SEWFARS Repeater club, c/o Jam Lazachek, KF9GG (262) 650-0724.

Thanks Al Johnson, AA7CS

HUDSON, WI (ARRL/VEC)
 Sponsor: St. Croix Valley AR Testing Col. Time: Call for time and walk-in info, Contact: Gregory Miller (715) 386-9857 Location: St. Croix County Emergency Government Center by jail, Carmichael Rd. lower level, Hudson, WI 54016. (Information tnx ARRL Web site)

Set her down here



Matt Baumann, N9NMH, of the Wisconsin Valley Radio Association, guides the *Spirit of Marshfield* medical Helicopter to its landing spot. Other members of the club secured the landing zone during the landing and subsequent takeoff. The WVRA provided ground support and radio communications for the Marshfield Clinic's Family and Friends picnic on October 7, 2000.

The Wisconsin Valley Radio Association is an Amateur Radio Club based in Wausau WI. The club provides a valuable public service through its volunteer work and sponsorship of amateur repeaters. It also supplies social activities for area hams. Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at Northcentral Technical College at 7 p.m., room F208. Email: w9sm@arrl.net for more information.

Photo and information courtesy of Michael Martens, KB9VBR

Second Annual EC Conference set for December 2

Mark your calendars now! The Second Annual Emergency Coordinator Conference is set for Saturday, 2 December. It will again be hosted at Wisconsin Emergency Management Headquarters, 2400 Wright Street, Madison, beginning at 10:00 a.m. and ending no later than 3:30 p.m. This year we will meet in the Emergency Operations Center, the large room used by state agencies and officials in case of a widespread emergency. A box lunch will be served at noon.

The agenda is still being finalized, but we know for sure that speakers will include Don Michalski, W9IXG, our ARRL Section Manager, and Alan Wohlferd, Wisconsin Emergency Management Communications and Warning Officer. Your SEC will also present a session on the new VECS Plan. Other speakers will be announced in the next ARES/RACES newsletter.

As was true last year, the conference is open to ECs, AECs, EMs and all hams and non-hams that have an interest in RACES, ARES, Emergency Management and emergency communication in general.

The only cost associated with the meeting is for the box lunch - payable when you arrive. However, it is imperative that you pre-register so that we can order the lunches (Stan will pre-pay for them). The box lunch on-site is preferable so we can sit around and talk shop while we eat, rather than taking time to travel to and from some local eatery. Our caterer has given us a deadline of 20 November to place the order so you must snail mail or email your registration to arrive no later than 8:00 a.m. on 20 November.

Email the names, calls and positions (EC, AEC, etc.) of all in your group who plan to attend, along with their preference for box lunches from the list below to Mack Brophy at races@dma.state.wi.us. Alternatively, you can snail mail your registration: Mack Brophy, N9NTB, Wisconsin State Ham Shack Manager, Wisconsin Emergency Management, 2400 Wright Street, Madison, WI 53707-7865.

Again, your registration **MUST** be received by 8:00 a.m. on Monday, November 20. Box lunch preferences (cost \$7.50):

CHOOSE ONE SUB STYLE:

1. Italian Sub.
2. Turkey and cheddar sub
3. Roast beef and cheddar sub
4. Veggie sub

CHOOSE ONE SALAD STYLE (each Y2 pint):

1. Dill/crab salad
2. Pasta salad (cheese tortellini)
3. Potato Salad

All lunches include Turtle Cheesecake and utensils. Drinks will be available in vending machines. See you there!

NOTE: This conference is open all hams and non-hams.

Check the WI ARES/RACES web page at <http://www.execpc.com/~skaplan>. Contact Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR, at skaplan@mcw.edu if you have any questions.

*Excerpted from the Wisconsin ARES/RACES
EMERGENCY COORDINATOR Newsletter, via Mack, N9NTB
VOLUME 2 NUMBER 11, NOVEMBER 2000*

Fort McCoy is host to Scout event

Bill Fletcher, AF9B



The Boy Scout Councils of Madison and La Crosse held their Joint Council Jambo-Camporee at Fort McCoy from September 29 - October 1, 2000.

The Camporee featured activities and displays of interest to the Scouts and adults in attendance.

One of those displays was that of ham radio. The Monroe County Amateur Radio Club made an appearance at the event with the club van. Club President Randi Owen, N9UOM, was at the helm, along with daughter, Sarah.

Randi estimated about 170 people stopped by to view the equipment and ask questions.

The photo at the top shows the van in an



exhibit area, the other is of Sarah inside the van.

tjkuch@execpc.com to arrange a tour of this interesting facility that we use as hub in our SKYWARN system.

The MRAC repeater, 147.045, has been relocated to 27th and Capitol. Tune it in! All Wisconsin nets are now listed on the section website. Some have had trouble reaching the section website. Suggest using www.eboard.com/w9ixg.

John Offerdahl, W9XH (S.K.), was honored in the recent Walk to Cure Diabetes 2000 that raised \$380K. The new WNA officers are WB9ICH, chairman; KB9ROB, secretary; W9UW, treasurer; K9LGU, training officer. Thanks for stepping up to the plate!

The September 9RN report shows 100% Wisconsin participation!

There will be the annual EC meeting at WEM on December 2. Hope to see all ECs there!

NØJHS has changed to W9JHS. Reminder to contact the FCC and get your FRN NOW!!

The next weekend Technician class in Madison will be January 20, 21. Get your family into the hobby! Contact me or register at: www.sal.wisc.edu/spaceplace/sparc.

73, Don W9IXG

From the Section Manager



Don Michalski, W9IXG

SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG. BWN 3985 0600 W9RCW. BEN 3985 1200 KE9-VU. WSBN 3985 1730 K9FHI. WNN 3723 1800 KB9ROB. WSSN 3645 1830 N9BDL. WIN-E 3662 1900 WB9ICH. WIN-L 3662 2200 W9UW.

Interested in bringing new life to club meetings? Consider field trips to local agencies; for instance, emergency management center, official communications centers, etc. Some members may already be involved with them so take a tour, introduce the club, and set the tone for future joint ventures that might need Hams! For openers, I have greased the skids for your club to get a tour of the Sullivan weather station. Contact Tom Fleming, N9SZF, n9szf@arrl.net (608)246-0282 or Tom Kucharski, KA9EWJ,

Wausau Insurance donates satellite gear to Rib Mountain Repeater Association

RMRA/RMATS received donation of a complete C/KU satellite receive system from Wausau Insurance Co. Previously, NASA TV video and audio, has been carried on the Rib Mountain Amateur Television Repeater since the 1990's through a 915 MHz or 1.2 GHz link from an "off repeater site" Satellite system.

Donated satellite equipment will now provide an ATV repeater "on site" system dedicated for NASA TV video and audio feeds on future space shuttle and international space station missions.

Paul Nelles, K9DB



We've Got Mail!

Rigs for Central America

Hi Jim:

I wonder if you could beat the bushes for me up there - I'm sure you know which guys may have some older rigs sitting around and who might be willing to donate to a deserving ham in Nicaragua.

I recently visited an old friend, Wilford Chow, YN1-MWC, in Nicaragua. I've known him for 20 years, he is a great technician and very interested in ham radio. We got him on HF 20 years ago as HT4ZWC, but that was the Sandinista era and about a year later they confiscated everyone's radios. Wilford is "middle class" there, but that is only about \$4,000 a year and he has kids in college, so he will never be able to buy radios.

I took my 2 meter HT and gave it to him and we got a ground plane up and he can get into the local repeater. I don't have a suitable older HF rig to send, but have sent down my kenwood R-1000 receiver and he is having lots of fun with that. His son is a senior in high school and has become interested in ham radio too, he plans to go to college in electrical engineering.

I have ways to get rigs down a few times a year and want to find some more to send down. What I am looking for is:

- ✓ 2 meter FM "mobile" transceivers
- ✓ 2 Meter HTs
- ✓ Compact HF solid state transceivers - TS-120/130 class, for example
- ✓ Power supplies for HF and 2 meter mobile rigs (these guys don't have cars - they would use them as base stations).
- ✓ Small antenna tuners for HF rigs

Actually, I will take all the rigs of these types that I can find - in addition to Wilford and his son, there are plenty of middle class hams who will never be able to buy rigs and don't have a decent radio. The donations should be in working condition (there's nothing to be gained by shipping junk).

My next chance to get something send down is mid December, so I would have to get them by early December. I would be grateful if you could forward this on to any of the guys who might be able to help out. Please have anyone interested in helping give me an e-mail to discuss it.

Thanks to everyone.

John Jackson, N9BTM

email: <john.jackson6@honeywell.com>

shipping address:
17456 N. 60th Drive
Glendale, Az 85308

Editor's note: John lived in Baraboo and was first licensed while in high school in the early or mid 1960s; his call then was WA9IYW. He attended UW-Madison, and is an avionics engineer for Honeywell in Arizona.

And he is probably the only ham in the state who had his call sign "altered" by the Department of Transportation. He ordered call sign plates, and what came wasn't WA9IYW. He got two nice plates with WA 91 YW.

If you can help his effort, please email John directly. Thanks.

PRB-1 package available on ARRLWeb

Questions regarding antenna restrictions and the limited federal pre-emption known as PRB-1 are among the most frequently asked of ARRL Headquarters staff members. John Hennessee, N1KB, of the ARRL Regulatory Information Branch has prepared a PRB-1 package and made it available on the League's Web site at

http://www.arrl.org/field/regulations/PRB-1_Pkg/index.html.

The ARRL PRB-1 Package site contains the original FCC PRB-1 document, a list of states whose statutes incorporate PRB-1, precedent-setting antenna cases, model antenna ordinances and other helpful information.

The ARRL Letter

ARISS UPDATE

Amateur Radio operations on ISS expected to commence in November

Launch of the first ISS crew, Expedition One, is set for the morning of October 31st, on a Soyuz rocket from the Baikonur Cosmodrome. William Shepherd, KD5GSL, is the expedition commander. Yuri Gidzenko is the Soyuz vehicle commander. Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, is the flight engineer. NASA Television plans extensive coverage, beginning at 0200 EST on that date.

The flight to the ISS will take approximately two days, with a docking expected on November 2nd. The crew has expressed a high level of interest in beginning Amateur Radio operations early in their mission but it may be several weeks before they can setup the Amateur Radio station and begin operations, probably no earlier than November 14.

The crew may be using their own call signs (KD5-GSL, U5MIR) or they may be using one of the club stations allocated to the ISS: DL0ISS, NA1ISS, or RZ3-DZR.

The Expedition One crew's activities are being scheduled around the UTC time frame. It is expected that their working day will start around 0800 UTC and end near 1900 UTC. There may be a lunch break near 1200 UTC. Passes near the beginning, lunchtime, and end of the crew day might be good times to find a crew member relaxing with amateur radio activities. The crew also has a "weekend" off from 1200 UTC on Saturday until the end of the day on Sunday. This might be another good time to listen for crew members using the Amateur Radio equipment. Please remember that the crew is using ham radio to relax from a very difficult job. They may, or may not, be interested in working a pile-up. They might be more interested in "rag chewing" with one or two hams on a given pass.

Please respect each crew member's different operating style.

It is not known yet how much power on board the ISS will be available for leaving the packet rig powered during times when the crew cannot perform voice contacts. We continue to request that the packet rig be left on as much as possible. The crew has been trained in the use of the beaconing capabilities, and we hope that they will use that to share their experiences as the first permanent crew on the ISS. This is a "standard" AFSK AX.25 "terrestrial packet" rig, so it can be used for APRS and email can be sent to the crew. Please do not use the system to leave email for other hams on the ground. Use the mailbox to leave email for the crew.

Initial operations will only take place on the 2M band. The tentative frequencies are:

Worldwide downlink for voice and packet: 145.80
Worldwide packet uplink: 145.99
Region 1 voice uplink: 145.20
Region 2 & 3 voice uplink: 144.49

Please remember to practice good operating practices and remain courteous and patient with this crew while they establish their ham operations preferences. Listen before transmitting, to make sure you don't step upon another QSO. Wait for the crew to call for contacts before transmitting. Please let others have a chance with a rare contact, don't monopolize the crew or the packet rig. Please do not ask the crew to schedule school contacts or other schedules: this puts them in an awkward and uncomfortable position. Information about requesting dedicated contacts will be available on the ARISS web pages (<http://ariss.gsfc.nasa.gov/>) shortly.

QSLs and SWLs will be accepted and can be processed through Radio Amateurs of Canada or the American Radio Relay League. The card design is being finalized, but should be ready for distribution early next year. Details can be found on the ARISS web page.

The planning for school operations is actively underway, and efforts are being made to have the first several school contacts before the end of the year. It is hoped that several school contacts can be accommodated each month, but the crew will be exceedingly busy and everyone must be prepared to support more, or possibly, fewer school contacts. The initial schools have been contacted and efforts are underway to finalize the details of their contacts. The ARISS organization is beginning to accept applications for school contacts; however, the crew workload will determine the amount of time that passes between accepting an application and when a contact is scheduled. We must all remember that these are very early times for the ISS and we need to remain flexible in pursuing Amateur Radio operations with the crews.

Please stay tuned to the ARISS web pages (<http://ariss.gsfc.nasa.gov/>) for the latest information about frequencies and other operational issues.

Will Marchant
kc6rol@amsat.org

Scanner bill gets Halloween-style stake through its heart

A legislative proposal in Michigan that would have regulated the possession of scanning receivers capable of receiving police frequencies has been killed. Michigan ARRL Section Manager Dick Mondro, W8FQT, reports that the bill's sponsor scuttled the measure in the wake of complaints from amateurs—even though hams were specifically excluded from the bill's provisions. The measure, House Bill 6012, would have made it illegal to have a receiver in a vehicle that received police frequencies. "The word to anyone inquiring is that the bill is

dead, thanks to the collective efforts of those that care," he said. Bill sponsor Rep Mike Kowall was much more direct and colorful. "Rest assured that I have driven a stake through the heart of this bill, and it will never see the light of day and will die before it reaches the committee process," he said. "Amateur Radio operators play an integral role in emergency/management agencies, and their freedoms are guaranteed under the first amendment of the U S Constitution and should never be challenged." --Dick Mondro, W8FQT - The ARRL Letter

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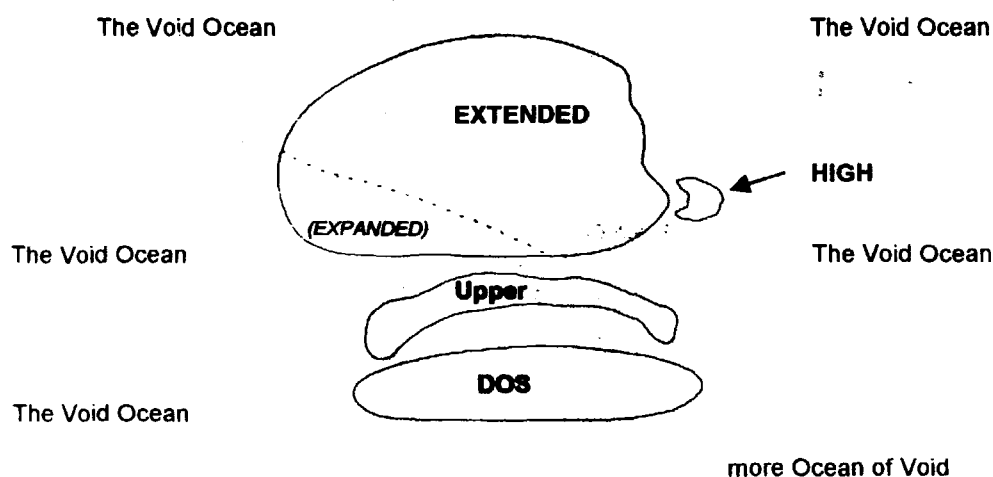
NOVEMBER 2000

The Computer Corner

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654



No. 84. A Map of the Planet *MEMORY*



CONTINENT NAME	AREA COVERED	SPACE OCCUPIED
DOS or Conventional	0 - 640 kb (minus 1 byte)	640 kb
Upper	640 kb - 1024kb (1 Mb)	384 kb
Extended	1024 kb and up	Variable
High (an island off the coast of Extended; part of Extended)	1024 kb - 1088 kb	64 kb
(Expanded)	1088 kb and up, if needed	None, unless needed, in which case it is carved out of extended

This month is an attempt to make clear the various regions of memory in a computer. To do so, I ask you to think of your computer's memory as a planet in some solar system. The planet is largely covered by an ocean, the Ocean of Void. It consists of pure water, which we all know has no business or function inside a computer. So, we can forget about it - remove it from your memory!

The basic continent, upon which everything rests, is DOS. You can see in the table that

it occupies 640,000 bytes of space (actually, 639,999 bytes, but we can get sloppy on occasion). When running in REAL (DOS) mode, all the user programs stay on this continent. They are not allowed to use any of the space on any other continent. Moreover, when a program is running in this mode, it can use all available DOS memory not used by DOS itself. When it is done, and only then, can a different program take over the continent.

Upper memory is another smaller continent, just above DOS. The video card uses some of this continent, as can some other expansion cards. The system BIOS itself uses some, too, in the north region of the continent. Often, there is unused space on this continent. The EMM386.EXE program that comes with DOS and Windows 95 and 98 (abbreviated Win9x) manages memory. It can assign the unused space on this continent to device drivers, Terminate-and-Stay-Resident (TSR) programs and the like. That helps, because these programs need space somewhere. If EMM386.EXE does not make space for them on the Upper Memory continent, they take up space on DOS. Moving them to Upper frees up space for your user programs on DOS.

Oh, by the way, the continents of DOS and Upper together occupy 1 megabyte of space.

Extended can be a huge continent, depending upon how much RAM you bought with your computer. If you buy just 64 megabytes, 63 are in Extended, and only one is occupied by DOS and Upper. Win9x takes over all 63, but parcels it out to programs that need the space on a temporary basis. It loans space to a program, or several, while they are running. It takes it all back when a program finishes with it. No program can occupy space on this continent without asking permission from Win9x! Win9x also prevents conflicts by parceling out territory on the continent. It will never let one program step over its boundary into another program's territory! Of course, that wasn't a problem on the continent of DOS, because only one program could be there at a given time. However, up in Extended, more than one program can be running (and occupying memory space) at a time. Someone has to keep the peace, and Win9x took on the job.

Oh, yes, we forgot to consider High. High is really not a continent - it is too small. We consider it an island, off the coast of (and part of) Extended. It is there because a programmer made an error back when DOS was being written for 286 machines. The error created this little island, only 64,000 bytes in size, which no one was using - it was totally uninhabited. To recoup the wasted space, programmers of DOS 5 introduced HIMEM.SYS, a little device driver. The driver is able to put part of DOS itself on the island, thus making use of the space and freeing up a little more memory on the continent of DOS. A nice touch.

We can ignore Expanded. Hardly anyone uses it anymore. When it is needed to run some ancient program that can't use Extended, we can tell EMM386.EXE to carve some space out of Extended and rename it Expanded. Oh, it does work a bit differently than all the other memories do, but I won't go into that. It was devised a long time ago when machines couldn't access more than 1 megabyte of memory space, because there were not enough wires embedded in the motherboard. You see, computers are a bit like an old-fashioned post office. If you a postal clerk about to hand-sort letters, you had better have enough cubbyholes, with numbers on them, to take care of all the addresses. There were not enough wires in older computers to address more than 1 megabyte of memory. But that's another story ... Happy computing!

PS: Here's a tip to make your life just a little easier. An absolutely wonderful wireless mouse can be purchased for very close to \$20, including delivery. It is really a slick device, and even sports a scrolling wheel. I bought one and liked it so much that I purchased three more for gifts. Call Johanna Garcia toll free at 1-877-505-4689, or navigate to www.easybuy2000.com to order one. I promise you will like it.

Reprinted, by permission, from the ORC Newsletter, *Ozaukee Radio Club* (Ted Schweitzer, KB9RLI, Editor, 126 Lilac Lane, Belgium, WI 53004. <theo@execpc.com>).

I want to believe!!

I was on my way to the post office to pick up my case of free M&Ms, (sent to me because I forwarded their e-mail to five other people, celebrating the fact that the year 2000 is "MM" in Roman numerals), when I ran into a friend whose neighbor, a young man, was home recovering from having been served a rat in his bucket of Kentucky Fried Chicken - which is predictable, since as everyone knows, there's no actual chicken in Kentucky Fried Chicken, which is why the government made them change their name to KFC.

Anyway, one day this guy went to sleep and when he awoke he was in his bathtub and it was full of ice and he was sore all over and when he got out of the tub he realized that his kidneys had been stolen. He saw a note on his mirror that said "Call 911!" But he was afraid to use his phone because it was connected to his computer, and there was a virus on his computer that would destroy his hard drive if he opened e-mail entitled "Join the crew!"

He knew it wasn't a hoax because he himself was a computer programmer who was working on software to prevent a global disaster in which all the computers get together and distribute the \$250.00 Neiman-Marcus cookie recipe under the leadership of Bill Gates. (It's true- I read it all last week in a mass e-mail from Bill Gates himself, who was also promising me a free Disney World vacation and \$5,000 if I would forward the e-mail to everyone I know.)

The poor man then tried to call 911 from a pay phone to report his two kidneys, but a voice on the line first asked him to press #90, which unwittingly gave the bandit full access to the phone line at the guy's expense. Then reaching into the coin-return slot he got jabbed with an HIV-infected needle around which was wrapped a note that said, "Welcome to the world of AIDS."

Luckily he was only a few blocks from the hospital -- the one where that little boy who is dying of cancer is, the one whose last wish is for everyone in the world to send him an e-mail and the American Cancer Society has agreed to pay him a nickel for every e-mail he receives. I sent him two e-mails, and one of them was a bunch of x's and o's in the shape of an angel (if you get it and forward it to more than 10 people, you will have good luck but for 10 people you will only have OK luck and if you send it to fewer than 10 people you will have bad luck for seven years).

So anyway the poor guy tried to drive himself to the hospital, but on the way he noticed another car driving without its lights on. To be helpful, he flashed his lights at him and was promptly shot as part of a gang initiation.

Send THIS to all the friends who send you their junk mail and you will receive 4 green M&Ms, but if you don't the owner of Proctor and Gamble will report you to his Satanist friends and you will have more bad luck: you will get cancer from the Sodium Laureth Sulfate in your shampoo, your wife will develop health problems from using the antiperspirant which clogs the pores under your arms, and the government will put a tax

on your e-mails forever.

I know this is all true 'cause I read it on the Internet.

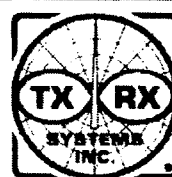
Yup, from a friend on the Internet. Original author not known

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2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

Meeting Minutes October 11th, 2000

The October meeting of the Mancorad Radio Club was called to order by President Fred (W6BSF) at 7:35.

The previous minutes were approved by motions made by Steve (N9PBL) and seconded by Gene (KB9KXF). Roger (W9NPX), the club's treasurer gave the month's treasurer's report. This also was approved by motions by Bob (KB9INK) and Red (N9GHE).

Fred (W6BSF) gave a short mention of the next year's Cobia Event. It will be held again on the last weekend of April. We hope to have enough volunteers to man 3 stations. He mentioned an article of this year's event was on the internet at BSSS.ORG. This may be the way we will be getting Smoke Signals in the future.

This Saturday, Oct. 14th is the monthly breakfast get together with the Sheboygan club. Everyone is invited. Interested members should meet at the Cleveland Family Restaurant at 8:00.

Again, everyone is reminded that the December meeting will be held on Thursday, Dec. 14th, instead of the 13th. Meeting will be held at the bank.

Fred led a discussion on the upcoming full scale exercise at the Point Beach Nuclear plant. If anyone can help they should contact Fred (W6BSF). It will be run as in the past years. This year's exercise will be held on Dec. 5th.

All members were invited to the club's Christmas Party. The party will be held at Cedar Ridge Restaurant on Jan. 12th. Cocktails from 6-7:00, with dinner at 7:00. Chicken and Ribs served family style for only 8.00. Please pay Roger (W9NPX) in the next 2 months. For those who have attended previous parties, everyone has a wonderful time.

Roger (W9NPX) asks that every member have their dues paid by the December meeting. An individual is 20.00 and family is 30.00.

All members are reminded that we will probably be moving in March or April. At that time help will be needed to move all equipment from the old radio shack to our new home.

Fred (W6BSF) postponed discussion on the donation to the Maritime Museum to next month. Please think about an amount we should donate to the building fund.

All members attending the meeting agreed Fred (W6BSF) should continue with the quarterly newsletter. However, Fred asked for help with articles for the newsletter. Anything will be appreciated. Thank you Fred for taking this on and doing such a wonderful job.

Dave (N9HNP) made a wonderful suggestion that the time, date and location of each month's meeting be put in the minutes. This may generate more attendance and also remind everyone of the upcoming meeting. Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

Red (N9GHE) reported he had done some checking on new repeater equipment. Prices gotten at Grays Lake were anywhere from 500.00 to 1500.00. Further discussion will be held in upcoming meetings. It is something the club should be seriously thinking about upgrading in the future.

Dan (N9FVZ) was presented with an appreciation award for his participation in the Cobia event. Thank you Dan for taking time.

Thank you to all who attended the annual club picnic. Besides plenty of good food and drink, three T hunts were held with prizes awarded. Horseshoes were also available. All who came had a wonderful time. Thank you to all those who organized this terrific event. Next year we hope to have a T hunt for the children.

With thoughts of children, a short discussion was held on how to encourage younger people to get involved with ham radio. Some suggestions were going into the schools, junior high and high school and give demonstrations on ham radio. Also to 4-H clubs and Boy and Girl Scouts. With the average age of our members going up, we need to recruit younger members.

Steve (N9PBL) gave a short report on the highway clean up. With waning participation, he recommended we give serious thought to turning over our section of the road back to county. We are done for the year, but will need to make a decision next spring.

The final business of the evening was the elections for next year. By unanimous vote all current officers were reelected to another year's service. However, for board positions, we had 7 nominations. A written vote was held with Bob (KB9INK), Red (N9GHE) and Ken (K9HAG) were elected for a one year term. Congratulations to all who were elected.

A big thank you to all who did a great job last year.

Our attendance drawing was held with Ron (WB9MFB) being picked. He was not here. So the pot goes up to 9.00.

Next month's meeting will be held at the bank, 7:30 on November 9th. Hope to see you all there.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40. Motions made by Ken (K9HAG) and Denise (N4WKG).

Membership Attendance

Roger, W9NPX
Fred, W6BSF
Denise, N4WKG
Red, N9GHE
Mary, KB9GOY
Ken, K9HAG
Gene, KB9KXF
Oran, N9VIA
Lyle, WB9VTM

Dick, N9QFY
Bob, KB9INK
Steve, N9PBL
Paul, AA9WI
Dave, N9HNP
Winston Weinert
Steve, KB9GPN
Theresa, KB9KXE
Gene, WB9DQD
Dan, N9FVZ

bility to the agency by hams.

In doing that, I "unbenefitted" myself. Seeing the ISS ham station about ready to begin operation on 2-meter FM, voice and packet, I am TNC-less, and won't be able to take part. That is a big phooey. Anyone out there got a TNC that will transmit and receive AX.25 packets without too much fiddling and fuss? If you do and you don't want a fortune for it, please email me and tell me all about your offering. Thanks!

- Jim,
K9ZZ

<smokesigs@baraboo.com>

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Rich Nesbitt, N9WPH, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI 54402

Six Meter Repeater: 51.19 Input/52.89 Output

Meeting Minutes 3 October 2000

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m. by President Kim Kunze, N9SDL.

Program: "Internet and Ham Radio", by Kim, N9SDL and Don, W9WW.

Members present: N9SDL, W9WW, N9WPH, N9NMH, KB9DED, N9MEA, KB9VBR, N9SDI, N9LIA, N9PHC, KB9DZG, KB9FRB, N9UAG, KB9MCZ, KB9RXA, N9NRA, KB9JMB, N9NRC, WA9NBC, N9TTA, KB9STB, KB9RXB.

Guest: Alton Reavill - former ham, wants to get his license back.

Secretary's Report - approved as published in *Badger State Smoke Signals*, except for name correction (N9NRC, Dwayne instead of Wayne). 1st W9WW, 2nd N9LIA.

Treasurer's report was approved. 1st N9NMH, 2nd N9LIA.

Mark, N9MEA, brought up the need for approval to pay for the added shipping charges on the antenna bracket for the new tower (about \$54). These charges exceeded the amount of money that was received from the Grant for the new tower equipment. Motion: W9WW, 2nd N9LIA - passed.

Don, W9WW, suggested taking up a collection from the members present to pay for the shipping charges.

Old Business

1. Tower update: the antenna bracket has been moved up near the new tower. Installation of the club's new tower equipment should occur sometime during the next 2-8 weeks. The confusion regarding the hardline size has been resolved.

2. Visitor's Bureau Grant update: Dwayne, N9NRC, said the grant was denied because the Grant committee cannot provide money to purchase capital equipment.

3. Ham class update - classes won't occur this fall. Classes could occur in the spring but we will need to advertise and find potential students.

4. Halloween Patrol update - N9NMH will act as the coordinator and seeking additional volunteers. The event will be conducted as an ARES drill. The Net will be on 146.64. Informal chat during the patrol will be on 444.10. Children in Wausau will be out for Trick or Treat on Sunday, 10/29/00, from 4-7 p.m. Other surround-

ing communities will hold their activities on 10/31/00.

5. WVRA Sponsored Auction update - held next month, 7 November. Members agreed upon a minimum 10% donation. Mike, KB9DED, will contact Jim Popanz to see if he will serve as auctioneer. Some of the items that will be auctioned off include a netting tower, 6M tuner with SWR meter, Halicrafter transmitter, and an analog meter. Donations are welcomed. Jack, N9LI suggested a letter should be sent to those members who donate to the club for tax purposes.

6. ARES update. Rich, KC9NW, the Marathon County Emergency Coordinator met with the WVRA Board members to discuss the idea of conducting the WVRA sponsored yearly events as ARES training sessions. He agreed and is now looking for ARES volunteers. ARES is a nationwide recognized organization. He emailed a roster of the current Marathon County ARES members to the WVRA board members. Other WVRA members are encouraged to join. A photo ID will be made eventually. KC9NW was present at the end of the meeting and gave an update on ARES and to ask for volunteers to help with the antenna upgrade at the police department.

New Business

1. Phil, KB9DZG, requested the Club sponsor a CPR class for the members. Mike, KB9DED, will have CPR training as a program at a future meeting.

2. Mike, KB9VBR is the new Net Control Manager. He needs someone to be Net Control on the 5th Wednesday of the month when they occur. Please contact Mike if you are interested.

3. Mike, KB9DED is looking for volunteers to help with a Ham Radio display at the Marshfield Clinic - Wausau Center picnic on 10/07/00. The Spirit of Marshfield helicopter will be brought in as an attraction and someone needs to provide radio communication. Mike thought this would be a great opportunity to set up a Club display table.

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m. 1st W9WW, 2nd - N9LIA.

Next meeting 11/07/00. Program: WVRA sponsored auction.

Respectfully submitted,
Rich Nesbitt, N9WPH, WVRA Secretary

Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO
5400 Six Mile Road
Racine, WI 53402



On a bright beautiful fall Sunday afternoon in October, nineteen members and guest met at Bentley's American Grille Restaurant in Racine to celebrate Chapter 162's Annual Meeting. After a bountiful meal and stimulating conversations, our nomination chair, Ed Konicek, W9NVK, passed out election ballots. It was again time to choose those who will guide us through the new year. After the smoke had cleared and the ballots counted, the four new Directors: Ken Knoff, N9NBC; Fern Fisher, W9LCJ; Herb Ladwig, W9PHJ; and Chuck Knotek, W9GKM; met with last year's remaining Directors to select our 2001 officers. The three Directors, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO; President: Ron Fox, K9AKH, Vice-President; and Bob Jensen, W0WLN, Secretary/Treasurer; were retained in the offices they held in 2000.

During the meal, Ron, K9AKH, passed around an album containing pictures of this year's

Field Day and Picnic activities that he had taken. Larry, WA9JMO, followed by circulating pictures he had taken during QCWA's International Convention in Toronto on October 12-14.

The president thanked our outgoing Directors: Spencer Clope, W9LDH, and Ed Konicek, W9NVK, for their time and dedication. The nomination committee, Ed, W9NVK; Chuck, W9GKM; and Ron, K9AKH, received similar kudos. An Olie Fox Award Committee made up of Fern Fisher, W9LCJ, Ken Knoff, N9NBC, and Bob Jensen, W0WLN, past recipients of this award, was asked to search Southeastern Wisconsin for a candidate to receive this recognition during our Christmas gala celebration on December 10th at the Fireside Restaurant, 2801 30th Avenue in Kenosha. Our Christmas party will begin at 4 p.m. offering an entrée selection of

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FROM THE EDITOR

© Thanks to N9VE for his help in a special way for BSSS.

© Traffic on the BSSS web site is pretty steady, with more than 9,000 hits a month. We can always use fresh material. Last month, the site was visited by folks in 25 countries.

© Being a bit philanthropic, I gave a new MFJ TNC to a local public service agency to give more communications capa-

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Dean R. Herriges, KB9ROB, Secretary
W370 S9590 Highway 67 • Eagle, WI 53119

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CST	Manager
BWN	Yes	3985	1200	0600	W9RCW
BEN	Yes	3985	1800	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	Yes	3985	2330	1730	K9FHI
WNN	Yes	3723	0000	1800	KB9ROB
WSSN	Yes	3645	0030	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0100	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0400	2200	W9UW
RCRA	No	01/61	0130	1930	KA9OMC
(Mondays CDT) (Menomonee Area)					
Gr. Bay	No	72/12	0345	2145	WB9NRK
(Green Bay Area)					
ARES	No	4.65/5.25	0300	2100	
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					

STM Report Wisconsin Section September - 2000

Net Nutz

Who needs it? Why should we bother to fight the static crashes, the QSB, to accomplish the thankless task of relaying messages that appear to be of little or no consequence? Why should we offer to send messages for friends, work on our traffic-handling skills, or check into nets on a regular basis even though there may not be any traffic coming our way?

Today, there's the Internet, Email, cell phones, and easy access to long-distance. With the decline in interest in CW operation, there's also been a decline in interest in nets operation and traffic handling. New operators enjoy DX, FM repeaters, PSK31, and plenty of other aspects of the hobby, but section traffic nets struggle for outlets. Some states have eliminated some nets. Some sections aren't represented on NTS Area nets. So why bother? Why not let traffic handling die a normal death and just enjoy the other parts of I. n radio? Who needs it?

We do. We need the service component of traffic handling just as we need to support public service events with our local repeaters. We need the practice, the training, for getting the message through -- even under adverse conditions. We need to demonstrate that we can provide accurate and timely communications -- even when the Internet is tied up, when the telephone lines are down, when the location of an emergency is not within easy cellular coverage. Traffic handling is an integral part of the emergency services we can provide.

So what should we do? Should we just let a few net nuts carry the load? Should we forget to tell new hams of the fun and value in traffic handling? Should we eliminate our section nets, or should we encourage participation at our local club meetings and licensing classes?

Maybe you're not able to check in to some of the section nets -- but if the weather net is too early, the noon net might be just right. If you can't have your traffic going out of state ready for daytime 9RN, you can send it to WIN from the evening sideband net (WSBN) or check into the WNN, WSSN, or WIN/E yourself. Up late? Why not stop by at the late session of WIN at 10 p.m. to check for traffic and say good night?

Traffic handling. Who needs it? We do.

73. K9LGU/ STM

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY September 2000

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1181	1470	2256	30	W9IHW for W9RCW
BEN	389	45	702	30	KE9VU
WSBN	490	48	733	30	N9BDL for WB9WHO
WNN	111	7	297	29	KB9ROB
WSSN	212	24	318	30	N9BDL
WIN/E	212	65	281	30	WB9ICH
WIN/L	191	63	319	30	W9UW
TOTALS	2786	1722	4906	209	

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY September 2000

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
W9IHW	3	512	33	463	1008 - BPL
K9JPS	0	465	41	424	930 - BPL
W9YYP	0	268	268	32	568 - BPL
N9TVT	0	88	381	0	389
K9GU	0	179	27	177	383 - BPL
WZ7V	0	189	31	162	382 - BPL
N9VE	0	156	29	185	298 - BPL
W9CBE	0	68	82	2	152
N9BDL	0	50	80	0	130
K9FHI	0	20	61	3	84
K9GB	0	25	57	0	82
K9LGU	0	58	20	1	79
W9YCV	0	27	35	9	71
N9CK	0	33	33	0	66
AG9G	0	12	50	0	62
W9UW	0	40	20	0	60
KE9VU	0	19	32	0	51
AA9BB	0	5	32	0	37
KB9ROB	0	32	2	1	35
W9BHL	0	1	30	1	32
N9KHD	0	8	19	0	27
K9HDF	0	0	26	0	26
KA9FVX	0	1	23	0	24
WB9ICH	0	19	3	0	22
WD9FLJ	2	7	3	5	17
W9PVD	0	3	3	1	7
K9UTQ	0	0	5	0	5

P S H R SUMMARY September 2000

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	TL
K9JPS	42	24	18	424	0	10	0	0	554
K9FHI	60	24	24	3	0	30	0	30	171
N9VE	30	0	0	185	0	30	0	0	165
N9BDL	60	24	24	0	0	30	0	0	138
WD9FLJ	50	0	24	5	2	20	0	30	131
W9CBE	60	24	24	2	0	20	0	0	130
W9YCV	60	24	24	9	0	10	0	0	127
K9LGU	60	18	24	1	1	20	0	0	124
N9TVT	60	24	24	0	0	10	0	0	118
AG9G	60	24	18	0	0	10	0	0	112
KA9FVX	23	3	0	0	0	10	0	0	36

National Weather Service/ARRL Special Event

Mark your calendars! On December 2, 2000, the National Weather Service (NWS) and the ARRL will co-sponsor an on-the-air special event from 0000 UTC to 2400 (Friday night through Saturday). There are four main objectives for the National Weather Service Special Event (NWSSE): Most importantly, the special event stations will commemorate the contributions that Amateur Radio operators make during times of threatening weather. Second, it would create an opportunity for NWS personnel to meet Amateur Radio operators, and it would also give Amateur Radio operators an opportunity to examine NWS operations. Third, it will encourage NWS personnel to actually get on

the radio (under the supervision of a control operator) and, hopefully, encourage them to acquire an operating license. Fourth, it will be fun!

The NWSSE Web site has complete operating instructions, a list of participating NWS stations and QSL information. Log onto <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/event2000/> for complete details.

Operating Event Guidelines

The objective is for Amateur Radio operators at NWS sites to work as many

Continued on page 9



SHEBOYGAN County Amateur Radio Club

Sky Borkenhagen, N9XRU, Secretary
N6466 Plank Circle • Glenbeulah WI 53023

2-Meter Repeater: 147.06 Output

The October meeting was called to order by club President Steve, N9TRK, at 7:00 p.m. There were nine members present. The SCARC meetings are held every second Tuesday of the month in the Red Cross building at 2032 Erie Ave. in Sheboygan. Introductions were exchanged.

The meeting was moved to the basement and the basement radio room progress was reviewed. The power center and the peg board are now up on the adjoining bench wall and the tabs for the two by fours have been welded up on the jack posts. A work party date is established for Saturday November 11th at 9:00 a.m. for the club radio room partition wall construction. Also discussed was the ability to operate the station on a emergency generator should the commercial mains fail. The station grounding buss and routing were reviewed and discussed along with the conduit layout for the coax runs to the station tower. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Net Schedule

The SCARC 2 Meter net meets Monday nights at 8:00 p.m. on 147.060, PL107.2 +. This is a fun net and all are welcome to join us. Any members willing to take net control for one or more nights should contact Steve, N9TRK.

Saturday Morning Breakfasts

The Saturday morning Sheboygan hams

breakfasts are held at the following venues:

- 1st - Jumes in Sheboygan
- 2nd - Family Restaurant in Cleveland
- 3rd - Jumping Jacks at Kohler Sports Core
- 4th - Park View Restaurant, County PP in Sheboygan Falls
- 5th - Hill Farm Restaurant, County V and OK in Sheboygan

Email List

If you use e-mail, consider signing up on the Sheboygan Hams mailing list. Simply submit your e-mail address to: <julian@bongo.tele.com>. All e-mail sent to <shebham@tele.com> will be forwarded to all listed subscribers. Thanks again!, N6ARE for providing this wonderful mail server for SCARC use.

Club Postal Mailing address

SCARC, PO Box 1282, Sheboygan, WI 53081-1282

Respectfully Submitted:
Sky Borkenhagen
N9XRU

Lakeshore Repeater Association

147.270 MHz • Racine, Wisconsin

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO • 5400 Six Mile Road
Racine, WI 53402-9741 • wa9jmo@wi.net



The Lakeshore Repeater Association's Board of Directors for 2001 is, seated left to right, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, President, and Fern Fisher, W9LCJ, Secretary; standing, Bob Jensen, W0WLN, Treasurer; Gene Haney, WB9ZKY, Technical Committee Chair; Dave Whitham, K9DQ, Vice President; and Dan Miller, KA9OIL, Repeater Trustee.

Photo courtesy Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

On the fourth Tuesday in October the membership of the Lakeshore Repeater Association met to select the individuals that will guide the club through 2001. The nominated slate of candidates, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, for President; Dave Whitham, K9DQ, for Vice-President; Fern Fisher, W9LCJ for Secretary; and Bob Jensen, W0WLN for Treasurer were elected to the respective positions without opposition. The Board will meet in early January to re-elect Dan Miller, KA9OIL, as the Club's Trustee and Gene Haney, WB9ZKY, as the Technical Chair. Joining Gene on the two-meter tech committee will be Pete Kinzelman, N9KGG; Ray Wolfe, K9RI; and Dennis Demet, K9DAD.

Our 70cm repeater is still sorting through the details needed prior to installing our antenna and feed line. We have a tower lease (hopefully soon to be signed) and an estimate of the total cost to get this machine on the air. We still need to nail down the

transmission line cost (per foot) and order it. We can then contract with a professional climber to hang the antenna (which we have) and fasten the 7/8-inch hard-line to the tower with stainless steel clamps at three-foot intervals (required by lease). Our UHF technical committee is waiting for this to occur so they can tie in the 442.000/447.000 MHz machine and get our repeater operational. Dave Whitham, K9DQ, heads the UHF tech committee with Rob Madson, KF9ZT; Joe Schimanski, KB9HS; Ray Wolfe, K9RI; and Dennis Demet, K9DAD, contributing their expertise. Although this is a costly project, your Board of Directors will work to maintain the yearly repeater dues at \$15. Our 501(c)3 Federal Tax Exempt status, and the healthy treasury we currently have, allows us to make this forward thinking statement. But the operating

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QCWA/Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

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steak, fish, chicken or pork chops. Reminder cards with all the details will be sent prior to Thanksgiving to comply with the restaurant's request of a 14-day meal selection notice. Our traditional gift exchange will follow the meal.

Our November business meeting will be held at the Wustum Museum, 2919 Northwestern Avenue in Racine, on Monday, November 20th, beginning at 6 p.m. with a one-hour guided tour of their current art exhibit. The meeting will follow at 7:15 p.m. in one of the side rooms. Coffee, Kringle and a good time will be offered to all attending.

73, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO,
President



Ron (K9AKH) and Judy Fox enjoy the bountiful dining selection available during Chapter 162's annual meeting.



Here is Chapter 162's 2001 Board of Directors. Seated, left to right: Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, President; and Fern Fisher, W9LCJ. Standing are Ron Fox, K9AKH, Vice President; Chuck Knotek, W9GKM; Herb Ladwig, W9PHJ; Bob Jensen, W0WLN, Secretary/Treasurer; and Ken Knoff, N9NBC.

Photos courtesy Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

Goldwater K7UGA call sign re-issued

The famous K7UGA call sign formerly held by the late US Sen Barry Goldwater has been re-issued to his club, the Central Arizona DX Association. The FCC granted CADXA's request for K7UGA on October 24.

The call sign came up for grabs this fall after the mandatory two-year waiting period following the cancellation of Goldwater's amateur license ended. Goldwater died May 29, 1998. CADXA President Gary Capek, K8BN, says the club, which traded its N7KJ club station call sign for K7UGA, plans to keep the call sign active.

Goldwater's family has donated his amateur equipment, memorabilia and furnishings to the Arizona Historical Society's museum in Tempe. Capek says he's met with representatives of the museum—which plans to reconstruct Goldwater's ham shack as an

exhibit—and says CADXA will cooperate in making the call sign available for special events at the museum.

The Goldwater ham shack exhibit still is in the planning stages, and the museum has been soliciting donations from the amateur community to construct the exhibit.

"I have agreed to work with them when they begin to install the old Goldwater shack items in the next year," Capek said.

The K7UGA station equipment and console were removed last May from the Goldwater home in Paradise Valley, Arizona, which has been sold. Goldwater's station and massive antenna system were used to complete thousands of phone patch messages for troops during the Vietnam War.

The ARRL Letter

NWS/ARRL Special Event

Continued from page 8

other amateur stations as possible. If you would like to set up a special event at a National Weather Service office, it will be the responsibility of the local Amateur Radio club or group to provide equipment and configure your operating area with appropriate antennas. Please coordinate with your local NWS office, and register the station with Scott Mentzer, KB0WPY, at scott.mentzer@noaa.gov by November 15. The NWS Special Event will take place in the General and/or Technician part of the bands. VHF operations are encouraged and repeater contacts are allowed. Most contacts will occur on the bands between 10 meters to 80 meters. Entities that utilize specific frequencies on a routine basis (e.g., National Hurricane Center) are encouraged to use those frequencies during the event. The actual frequency from which a NWSSE station operates is left to the local operator's discretion. (The ARRL 160 Meter contest will run during the NWS Special Event. Therefore, special event stations will not operate on that band.)

Although phone will be the primary operating mode, event stations will be encouraged to use the following digital modes: CW, PSK-31, APRs, and RTTY. NWS Special Event operators will append "NWS" to the end of their call signs (e.g., W0A/NWS) when using digital modes. The QSO exchange will include call sign, signal report, location, and a one or two-word description of the weather occurring at your site ("sunny," "partly cloudy," "windy," etc.).

Certificate with Endorsements

The National Weather Service Special Event will award a certificate with endorsements. An endorsement is basically a sticker that is placed on the certificate if certain goals are reached. To obtain your certificate, create a handwritten log of NWS stations worked and indicate the endorsements you are applying for. You may also link to the certificate endorsement log at this address:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/event2000/SpecialEvent2000.PDF>.

Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope, and mail both items to:

National Weather Service Special Event
920 Armory Road
Goodland, KS 67735

An up-to-date list of the endorsements and qualifying criteria may be found at this particular page on the Special Event Web Site:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/event2000/EventCertificates.htm>.

What About QSL Cards?

In addition to the event certificate, a number of individual stations are offering QSL cards. A list of those offices accepting QSL cards can be found on the NWSSE Web site by clicking "QSL Card Info" on the menu.

NWS contact: Scott Mentzer, KB0WPY, scott.mentzer@noaa.gov. Telephone: 785-899-2360.

ARRL contact: Steve Ewald, WV1X, sewald@arrl.org. Telephone: 860-594-0200.

- ARRL

Filler Killers Needed

You can help prevent me digging thru old stacks of photos like the one at right and printing them! How? Send us news and photos of what is happening in today's world of Amateur Radio. Individuals, clubs and groups do lots of interesting things. Let us tell others. And if it goes on our web site, readers in as many as 25 countries will read it! That is, if you want the stories told.

Lakeshore Repeater Association

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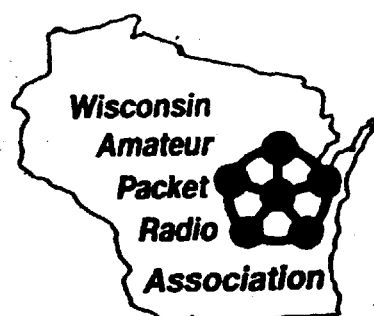
expenses associated with the two repeaters may behoove us to actively seek additional members. I believe the greater coverage offered by our UHF system will naturally draw more members. All we need to do, once the repeater is on the air, is to spread the word....

73, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, President

In its 80+ member heydays in the 1970s, the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club of the Baraboo area donated the ARRL package of ham radio books to many area libraries, including Baraboo, Portage, Reedsburg, Lodi, and more. This photo, taken in the Portage Library, shows Ken Ebner, K9EN; Bob Johnson, WB9EIV, and a librarian. The identity of the photographer is known, but is being withheld.

Helping spread the Amateur Radio propaganda





THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association

Allen Schnepf, NØGMJ, Treasurer

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor • 453 Cottage Grove Avenue • Green Bay, WI 54304 • e-mail: kb9aln@juno.com

WAPR News - October, 2000

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

Happy Thanksgiving! I hope that you and yours enjoy a good holiday this year, and have many more to come.

We were lucky to be blessed with some very nice weather in October, which allowed many of us to take care of that nagging outside work. No, I am not talking about storm windows and storage of the lawn furniture (although I understand that certainly applies). I am talking about the stuff that we need to do in order to maintain our station installations, such as antenna and feedline work.

Joel, N9BQM has been busy doing just that, but not at home. He's one of a few who have been working on the Rudolph node site, correcting some longstanding problems.

Last month, I reported that the Rudolph site had been hit by lightning. Apparently, I was mistaken. Actually, that site had antenna problems. We're on a spare antenna there and it had some problems that go way back. The feedline had problems, and to make matters worse, there was a loose connection at the antenna. Which made for intermittent operation, on top of the poor performance related to the aforementioned feedline problem.

While Joel and the guys were at it, they slightly changed the orientation of the antenna so that it favors existing links that are closer than the Wittenburg node link. When finished, we're looking for the kind of performance that will give us a much more stable links to other parts of the network.

Thanks go to Joel, the tower climber and others who assisted in this project.

On another topic, Rich, AA9L from Milwaukee sent me E-Mail asking about a problem he was having with the MSYS BBS at MSOE. Actually, there were two problems. One was a disconnection problem he was having between his personal station and the BBS. It seems that he would get disconnected from the BBS after getting a few initial packets when the connection was first established. He found an interesting solution to his problem - he changed the TNC he was using at home. Once changed, the problem went away.

One can only speculate as to the problem within the TNC, but whatever it was seemed to affect the time to respond to incoming packets (RESPTIME in some TNCs). The TNC would take too long to acknowledge incoming packets, thus, the BBS would think the connection was lost and send a disconnect packet.

Another problem has not seen a resolution as of yet. When someone is reading messages on the BBS and decides to reply, the BBS program would exit all by itself. He is using MSYS version 1.2 beta 4, a 486 computer running at 66 MHz, and Windows NT as an operating system.

I no longer run MSYS in Green Bay, so I was not able to offer him much help. If anyone has any ideas on how to fix Rich's problem, drop him a line at:

philips@msoe.edu

Still no word on the arrangements for the WAPR meeting. Keep an eye out on your local BBS for the date and time.

That's all for this month, folks. If you have packet news you'd like to share, be sure to contact me through one of the addresses at the top of this page.

Until next time, 73 from Andy.

Standardizing Packet Emergency Contact and Operating Procedure

By Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

In mid-October, Jeff Ramlow, N9WBR sent a message out to several Wisconsin Emergency Coordinators and Packet operators that contained some observations that led to an interesting proposal for Packet Radio Emergency Operations in Wisconsin.

Jeff is a veteran of emergency drills in more than one county, and also was thrust into the most famous Wisconsin disaster in recent memory. That would be the 1996 Weyauwega train derailment and subsequent propane tanker explosion. These days he is the Emergency Coordinator for Portage County. It's this background and his keen interest in packet radio that got him to thinking, and should get the rest of us to thinking as well.

Anyone who has operated packet radio during a drill or emergency probably knows the path to the Wisconsin Emergency Management BBS, WEMBBS. It is pretty standard BBS, and so is the procedure for leaving messages. However, what if the people in Madison, or a neighbor county of yours, needs to get a hold of your county ARES unit during the course of operations? They would have to wait until you contacted them, either by voice or packet, to know who to connect to, and how to connect. Sometimes it is not always possible to do timely, sometimes it is just plain not possible. And then there is the issue of "whose call sign should we use?"

These problems are addressed by a good part of Jeff's proposal, which he calls a starting point for discussion. He points out that packet radio emergency operations seem to never be done the same way twice - node paths might change, and the location of the disaster scene may require the use of digipeaters to get to a network node. And what about the call-sign?

Jeff suggests that we designate certain BBS systems as ARES mail drops. These would be used in the event direct contact is not always possible, or maybe not immediately possible. Leaving a mail message at a BBS so

designated with connect information would help to make connections faster, which may indeed be crucial in the beginning stages of a disaster.

Jeff's proposal does delve into the mechanics of operation, suggesting we adopt the NTS traffic format to leave these messages, and operating in a "net" format, by packet mail. In fact, a lot his proposal is meant to emulate voice net procedures. As a result, they should not be difficult to implement. Here's a summary of his proposal:

- Development of a special message group that would be forwarded to all Wisconsin packet BBSs for use during disaster and non-disaster times. He suggests WIARES. This type of flood message category would be used for regular contact in non-disaster times, and to establish initial contact for a drill or disaster.
- Use designated BBSs for mail drops during disasters or exercises for the affected county.
- Designate the ARES station in the affected county as the "Net control", and neighboring counties as "check-ins".
- Check-ins would make initial contact with the Net Control by packet mail at the designated BBS, using the NTS message format.
- Subsequent contact would be maintained through packet mail messages in NTS format.
- Participants who wished to leave the net would formally check out, also using an NTS formatted message.

Jeff's proposal does not get so specific as to limit the type of technology used in message transmission or retrieval. As long as it is forwardable over the BBS network, you can use any method - SMTP, AX.25, or whatever.

Additionally, Net Control stations may specify an alternate return address for the mail intended for it. In short, there is flexibility in the proposal that makes it workable.

Local packet communications between various local disaster areas would not be covered by this proposal.

WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME: _____ CALL: _____ HOME PHONE: (____) _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME BBS: _____ FREQ: _____ (Listing your home BBS is important)

MY PACKET STATION OPERATES: _____ DAY _____ NIGHT _____ 24 HOURS

I OPERATE A: _____ DIGIPEATER WITH AN ALIAS OF: _____

_____ FULL SERVICE BBS

PRIMARY PACKET INTEREST/EXPERTISE IS: _____

YES: I want to receive Badger State Smoke Signals and I understand that part of my dues will go to pay the subscription. Cost \$20.00.

NO: I do not wish to receive Badger State Smoke signals as part of WAPR membership. Cost \$15.00.

Complete and return this form with your check or money order — \$15.00 for membership only or \$20.00 for membership and Badger State Smoke Signals, made payable to W.A.P.R. to:

Allen Schnepf, NØGMJ, Treasurer,
W5000 SR 86
PO Box 558
Ogema, WI 54459

Local ARES units can do this for themselves - a specific protocol for this would not be workable. However, it does make sense for the "rest of the world".

For those of you who are interested, contact Jeff via packet or E-Mail. He's anxious to get feedback and to get the ball rolling. His addresses -

For: Packet:
N9WBR@N9WBR.#ECWI.WI.USA.NOAM

For: Internet E-Mail:
jeff@ramlow.com

You can get the complete text of the proposal from him, and send him your comments and suggestions as well.

This is one proposal that is worth working on, in my opinion. Even if it is not adopted in full, at least it gets us going in the right direction. After all, packet is only useful when we can get connected, and the sooner we get connected during an emergency, the better.

73 from Andy, KB9ALN.

THE TEST POINT

(continued from page 3)

HAMFEST EXAMS

Cedarburg WI - ORC Hamfest
Green Bay WI - ARES Hamfest
Hayward WI - Hayward Hamfest
Kaukauna WI - Swapfest
Manitowoc WI - Lakeshore Hamfest
Oak Creek WI - SMARC Hamfest
Rhineland WI - NWARC Swapfest
Rockford IL - RARC Hamfest
Rothschild WI - WVRA Hamfest
South Milwaukee, WI - SMARC Hamfest
Stevens Point, WI - CWRA Swapfest
Waukesha WI - KMRA Swapfest
Waukesha WI - Midwinter Swapfest
Dubuque IA - Hamfest

See the Swapfest page for additional information and contact persons.

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

DUBUQUE, IOWA

Dubuque Hamfest. Contact: Carl Clark, N0KAX, 2145 Delicia Drive, Dubuque, IA 52001. (319) 557-9149.

ROCKFORD/LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Contact: Rusty Cordell, WB9QYV, 1823 Hulin St., Rockford, IL 61102-2619. (815) 968-0080. e-mail WB9QYV@aol.com

MINNESOTA TEST INFORMATION

From The Ground Wave, Saint Paul Radio Club

Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC)

TESTING: First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m.
Contact: Ed VanCleave, W0VC, (612) 636-0108 Test Site: St. Paul Technical College 235 Marshall Ave. St Paul, MN

Anoka Amateur Radio Club (AARC)

TESTING: Second Saturday of the month, 9 a.m.
Contact: Craig Johnson, AA0ZZ (612) 483-3143 Test Site: Blaine City Hall 9150 Central Ave NE Blaine, MN
Bloomington Office of Emergency Management

Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (BARC)

TESTING: Fourth Saturday of the month, 9 a.m.
Contact: Dan Royer, KE0OR (612) 888-9756 Test Site: Fire Station No. 1 94th St. & Nicollet Avenue S. Bloomington, MN

Valley Amateur Radio Club (VARC)

TESTING: Second Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.
Contact: Bill Martin, A10D (612) 432-0438 Test Site: Hayes Community Center 14601 Hayes Road Apple Val-



Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

Leonard Wagner, N9XJG, Secretary
E10262 Hootowl Drive ■ Baraboo, WI 53913



The October 3, 2000 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc was called to order at 7:50 p.m. by Steve Schulze, N9UDO, club president.

The minutes of the September meeting with corrections were accepted. Treasurer's report was accepted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Club received one free ticket to the HAMFEST Minnesota and computer expo! on October 28, 2000. If you are interested please contact RMTLOSZ@AOL.COM to obtain same.

OLD BUSINESS: A sympathy card was given to Art Kleefisch, W9WSS. A \$100 donation was mailed to the American Diabetes Association and St. Clare Hospital on behalf of Loretta Kleefisch who died July 22, 2000.

NEW BUSINESS: The following individuals were elected unanimously: President Steve Schulze, N9UDO Vice President Thomas Harrison, N9PQJ Secretary Raymond Matlosz, N9MLZ Treasurer Bill Klinkner, N9KXX

A motion was made, seconded and approved to have a swapfest on August 11, 2001. It was suggested that BSSS be contacted to update the ad to reflect the 2001 date. Discussion was held on where and when to have the Holiday Party in December which would replace the December 5th meeting. Discussion was held on programs to have following the business meeting. Members voted to continue meeting on the first Tuesday of the month. Members voted to increase dues to twenty dollars a year. Discussion on offering classes to individuals interested in

obtaining an amateur radio license. Pete Sweeney, WD9JIB asked if the club would be interesting in participating in a tabletop exercise at the next meeting. Members voted yes.

Buck night winner/loser was James Braunn who was not present to win.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE EOC at 7:30 p.m. November 7, 2000 (election day - don't forget to vote) for a table top exercise (located basement of the Sauk County Courthouse).

Respectfully submitted

Raymond Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary

The following members and guests were present:

Steve Schulze	N9UDO	Baraboo
Raymond Matlosz	N9MLZ	Reedsburg
David Spearing	KB9CSW	Portage
Jim Paul	N9LKY	Baraboo
Duane Grotophorst	N9DG	North Freedom
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Peter Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
Arthur Kleefisch	W9WSS	Baraboo
Bill Klinkner	N9KXX	Sauk City
Anne Klinkner	N9PQL	Sauk City
Patrick Klinkner	-	Sauk City

ley, MN

W5YI Group

TESTING: Third Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m.
Contact: Dave Ranney, N0AXL (612) 542-2553 Test Site: Eden Prairie Library 479 Eden Prairie Drive Eden Prairie, MN

SE Metro Area Radio Club (SEMARC)

TESTING: Third Saturday of the month, 9 a.m.
Contact: Dave Harrell, K0BTE (612) 459-8678 Test Site: Cottage Grove fire Station 8641 80th ST., S Cottage Grove, MN. The times and places listed above are the usual time and place for each VE team. Occasionally, sessions are canceled or changed. It is a good idea to call ahead to confirm the test time and place.

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available to publicize your Volunteer Examiner Amateur Radio license examination schedules. Please send us your schedules of dates, times, and locations that you will be conducting examinations and we will include the information here. Be sure to include contact address and any other necessary requirements. Information should be sent to kebneter@palacenet.net.

OLD TECHNOLOGIES NEVER DIE

Courtesy of Paul Lusardi, N0VLR

Via: ARNS Bulletin

What do the Space Shuttles have to do with the Roman Empire?

The US standard railroad gauge (width between the two rails) is 4 feet 8.5 inches. That's an exceedingly odd number.

Why was that gauge used?

Because that's the way they built them in England and US railroads were built by english expatriates.

Why did "they" use that gauge then?

Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they used for building wagons, which used that wheel spacing.

(May, Why did the wagons have that particular odd wheel spacing?

Well if they tried to use any other spacing, the wagon wheels would break on some of the old, long distance roads in England, because that's the spacing of the wheel ruts.

So who build those old rutted roads.

The first long distance roads in Europe (and England) were built by Imperial Rome for their legions. The roads have been used ever since.

And the ruts in the roads?

The initial ruts, which everyone else had to match for fear of destroying their wagon wheels, were first formed by Roman war chariots. Since the chariots were made for (or by) Imperial Rome, they were all alike in the matter of wheel spacing. The United States standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8.5 inches derives from the original specification for an imperial Roman war chariot.

Specifications and bureaucracies live forever. So the next time you are handed a specification and wonder what horse's ass came up with it, you may be exactly right, because the Imperial Roman war chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate the back ends of two war horses.

Now the twist to the story and the answer to the original question:

When we see a Space Shuttle sitting on its launch pad, there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are solid rocket boosters, or SRBs.

The SRBs are made by Thiokol at their factory at Utah. The engineers who designed the SRBs might have made them a bit fatter, but the SRBs had to be shipped by train from the factory to the launch site. The railroad line from the factory had to run through a tunnel in the mountains. The SRBs had to fit through that tunnel. The tunnel is slightly wider than the railroad track, and the railroad track is about as wide as two horses behinds.

So, the major design feature of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system was determined over two thousand years ago by the width of a Horse's ass!

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SWAPFESTS



29th ANNUAL MIDWINTER SWAPFEST

WAUKESHA EXPOSITION CENTER
WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN

SATURDAY

JANUARY 6, 2001

Phillip A. Bogacki, KB9KFE
Milwaukee, WI
Michael R. Placke, KB9SCH
Oak Creek, WI

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April 8, 2001

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400 Mandt Parkway • Stoughton, WI
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P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890
Swapfest Information Line: (608) 245-8890

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SWAPFEST 01

2001 ♦ July 7

(Held every July)

American Legion Park

Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI

(414) 762-3235

P. O. Box 102

Extension: Ask for Verne
South Milwaukee, WI 53172

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For more information, call (414) 835-7035

LAKESHORE HAMFEST

AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST

Manitowoc County Expo

Intersection of Hwy 42-151 and I-43 on Cty Highway R

Saturday, May 13, 2000

For more information, call:

Red, N9GHE • (920) 84-3733

Dick, N9QFY • (920) 682-9264

ManCoRad Radio Club • P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

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920-563-8740

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formerly known as LAMARSfest

Lake County Fairgrounds / Grayslake, Illinois
Radio, Electronic, Computer Swapfest

03/25/01

North Shore Radio Club / Box 1066 Highland Park, IL / 60035

Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club

HAMFEST 2001

Saturday, June 9, 2001

For Information Contact:

Jim Staatz KG9RA at 715-838-9108

P.O. Box 1867 Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867

<http://www.ecarc.org> w9eau@ecarc.org



Racine Megacycle Club

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Racine, WI 53401

Phone:

262-562-6762

E-Mail:

w9udu@w9udu.org

Contact us or keep
checking our web
site for details on
upcoming events.



Ozaukee Radio Club 23RD ANNUAL RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST Saturday, May 5, 2001

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center

Intersection of Highway 60 and County I

Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,

5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222

Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club

W55 N865 Cedar Ridge Drive • Cedarburg, WI 53012

Circus City Swapfest

Sponsored by The Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

Saturday August 12, 2000 • 7 am - Noon

Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI

Vendors • Concessions
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Tail Gate Area

\$4 - Advanced
\$5 - At Gate
8 Foot Tables - \$5

Steve Schulze, N9UDO
(608) 356-2313/356-4777
<http://members.baraboo.com/ssschulze/hamfest.htm>

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX
(608) 643-6908/643-6453

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

AUCTION

February 27, 2001 • 7:00 p.m.

American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street

Eau Claire, WI

CONTACT:

Steve Hart, KA9OMC
E616 810th Ave.

715-665-2374
Knapp, WI 54749

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BP-202 for Radio Shack; PB-34 NIMH & PB-13 NIMH for Kenwood; EBP-22 NIMH for Alinco;
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